Reusable Bag Campaign

Wyckoff Junior Environmental Commissioner

Lauren Markarian

No More Plastic Bags, Please!

The benefits of using reusable bags:

- Stores often offer incentives for using reusable bags
- Reusable bag production reduces the amount of non-renewable resources (crude oil & natural gas) used in the plastic production process
- More sustainable and durable. They rip less and last longer
- Reduces plastic pollution
- AND, they are better than using single-use plastic bags!!



Bring Your Own Bag

Eco-Friendly reusable bags are best!



New Jersey Goes Green

"Single-use plastic and paper bags — along with disposable polystyrene food containers & cups — will be banned in New Jersey stores & food service establishments, effective May 2022 ..."

(NJ S864)



Logo contest winner, Riley, former student at Coolidge Elementary School

"PLASTIC FREE IS THE WAY FOR ME"

Wyckoff Receives Grant

In 2019, a \$2,000 grant obtained through Sustainable Jersey & PSEG was awarded to Wyckoff to promote a campaign on reducing the use of plastic bags in town. The campaign had 3 phases:

- Slogan & design contest for local K-8 students. Chosen design was used on reusable bag giveaway
- 2. Free one-time virtual movie screening of Bag-It an American documentary that displays the impact plastic has on society
- 3. Free reusable bag random drawing to movie attendees

Wyckoff Revised Grant Proposal

- Our Goal to reduce and eventually eliminate plastic bags from the Wyckoff community. Encourage community members to use reusable shopping bags instead of plastic bags when shopping. Educate people why reusable bags are a better choice to increase participation and enthusiasm throughout the community
- Why? Plastic bags are detrimental to the environment.
 They take a very long time to biodegrade and pollute the soil and water.



Bag It Virtual Movie Promotion

Distributed posters to different locations in Wyckoff to promote movie:

- 1. Starbucks
- 2. Stop & Shop
- 3. Shoprite
- 4. Marshalls
- 5. Wyckoff Library



Spreading Awareness in Town!







Marshalls Starbucks Shoprite

Bag It Virtual Movie Promotion



Spread Awareness on Social Media to promote movie:

- Schoology at Ramapo-Indian
 Hills school district
- Facebook pages such as
 Wyckoff Moms, Wyckoffians
 & Wyckoff Public Library
- Wyckoff Environmental
 Commission Website

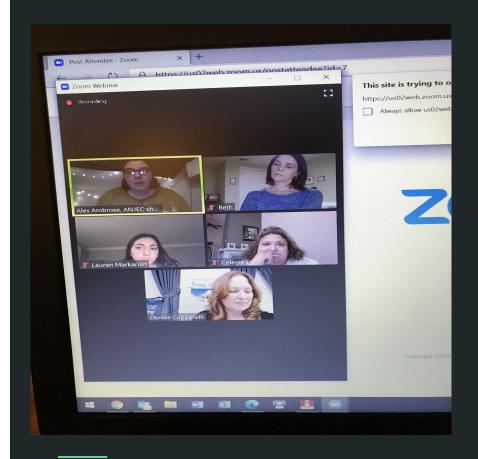


Bag It Movie is on loan at your local Bergen County Cooperative Library System

Bag It Virtual Screening October 28, 2020

- Held via Zoom
- Hosted by Wyckoff Environmental Commission/PSE&G Grant
- # People Attended 25
- Q&A with ANJEC representative,
 Alex Ambrose, and Panelists (from Wyckoff Environmental Commission)
- Participant Survey
- Free bag giveaway





How to Get Involved!

- 1. Decline the bag hand carry items out of the store if you can
- 2. Bring reusable bags instead create a habit of bringing them into the store with you
- Shop at local markets and don't use plastic bags for loose vegetables – take your own reusable, washable Onya bags, or paper bags.
- Recycle the plastic bags donate your plastic bags to thrift stores for reuse or drop off plastic bags in recycling bins at supermarket locations
- 5. Reuse the plastic bags yourself think of creative ways you can use the bag to save you money/time (i.e. they become small garbage can liners, holding a wet bathing suit, etc.)
- 6. Educate younger generation for the future
- 7. Sign petitions to ban single-use **plastic bags** in your state.



Thank You!





This project was completed as part of the Wyckoff Environmental Commission Junior Commissioner program. Junior Commissioner Lauren Markarian, a student at Ramapo High School in the class of 2023, took the project to its final stages assisting on the successful virtual public outreach campaign.

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Sources

- --https://www.nj.com/news/2020/11/plastic-bags-banned-in-nj-as-murphy-signs-new-law.html
- --https://plastic.education/benefits-of-using-reusable-shopping-bags/
- --https://plastic.education/how-to-reduce-the-use-of-plastic-bags/

